

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended.

Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of Claims 14–16 and 19–23, and the indication of allowable subject matter within Claims 3–7.

Claims 3–7 were objected to due to informalities. In response, Claim 3 has been amended to correct the misspelling indicated within the Office Action (Page 2). Claims 8, 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shou et al. (USP 5,910,948) in view of Lomp (USP 5,991,332). In the interests of receiving an early allowance, and without acceding to the § 103 rejections, Claims 8, 17 and 18 have been canceled without prejudice. Thus, Claims 3–7, 14–16 and 19–23 are pending.

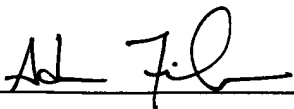
Applicant respectfully requests that this application now be passed to issue, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been requested separately, such extension is hereby requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees and to credit any overpayments that may be required by this paper under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 02-2135.

Respectfully submitted,
Rothwell, Figg, Ernst & Manbeck, P.C.

July 11, 2006

By:  _____

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